

M'KINNIE PLANT BURNED TO GROUND

Loss Estimated at \$3,500
With no Insurance.

Spontaneous Combustion in Saw
Mill Department Is Supposed
to Be Cause.

SOME MACHINERY IS SAVED

Despite thirty hours drenching by rain and the opposition of five fire companies the McKinnie Veneer & Lumber company's plant, Myers street, Mechanicsburg, burned to almost a total loss at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Mr. A. J. Decker said the loss would approximate \$3,500 with no insurance in force. The fire started presumably from spontaneous combustion in a corner of the saw mill in a heap of sawdust and waste. The mill has not been used in some time and was most recently used by the Sherrill-King Mill company. Some of the waste had been removed and the rest was considered a menace.

The fire comparatively was small when first discovered and covered only a small part of the plant, when company No. 2 reached the scene. Later companies Nos. 4 and 1 arrived. By the time the hose had been laid and the water was played on the fire, it had gotten an uncontrollable start, and the firemen directed their efforts to preventing spread and saving the office.

At 4 o'clock the fire was out except in the sawdust heap and the firemen were occupied until after dark putting that out. The warehouses were not burned and there was no lumber in the yard. The steamer, John Hopkins, was tied up just below the mill and got up steam but did not find it necessary to use it.

All the office fixtures except the safe were removed, but the firemen saved the office building. Nothing else was removed from the building and what little stock and machinery it contained either were ruined or badly damaged.

Chief Wood was pleased with the action of the new hose. There was only one leak in 1,300 feet. The recently rebuilt engine at the company No. 2 had its first real test and all through the fire added its pressure to the city mains to a line over 1,500 feet long.

It had been expected to start the mill next Monday. Part of the building was to have been used by a new cereal company contemplating moving here. Mr. Decker said at the fire, that it would not interfere with the new company's operations and that work on a new building would start immediately.

Mr. Decker said he hoped that most of the machinery is saved and he believes the big Corliss engine is unharmed.

ECLIPSE SKATING RINK

Skating afternoon and night,
Sixth and Broadway, Eagle's
hall.

J. E. BIVENS, Mgr.
Admission 10c



Are you Planning for a
Bridge or Whist Party
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We carry a full line of Counters,
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A pack of Resall Playing Cards,
superior in slip and finish and equal
to regular 25c. packs for 15c.

W. B. M'PHERSON

BASKET FACTORY WONDERFUL SIGHT

How They Turn Out Million
Baskets a Day.

Machine Takes in Material at One
End and Throws Out Product
at Other.

PADUCAH'S BIGGEST PLANT.

"Know Paducah" should be a slogan for advancing the city's interests. Few average citizens, comparatively, could talk intelligently about its great manufacturing enterprises, to strangers they meet in other cities. The Sun will take its readers on a personally conducted tour—not of California—but through the biggest manufacturing plant in the city—it also is the biggest of its kind in the world. It is the Mergenthaler-Horton Basket company.

As a preliminary historical survey, it might be mentioned that the Mergenthaler-Horton Basket company has been in this city four years. The company came here because the city's position made raw material easily accessible. The rivers converging at this point traverse a country with an inexhaustible supply of gum, the timber exclusively used in the manufacture of baskets.

Four years ago the company began operations in one building and with 12 machines. Right here it would be well to interpolate some conception of these wonderful machines. To the mind of the newspaper representative inspecting the plant, they instantly suggested the linotype machine. In fact the basket-making machine was first conceived by the inventor of the linotype, Mr. Mergenthaler. Mr. Emmet Horton perfected the mechanism, which in taking the raw material at one end and turning out the finished product at the other end with such rapidity, reminds one of the countryman's description of the old Empire State Express. "Here she comes there she goes."

All the operator has to do is to supply the material and another assistant takes off the finished product. The first stage of the raw material is the great gum logs which are floated in huge rafts down the rivers. In the mill they are sawed into proper lengths and then tumbled into a vat to be boiled. They are then cut into wafer strips and out of these strips, the sides to the baskets are made.

Kinds of Baskets.

Grape, berry and peach baskets are made in different sizes. There are special machines for making a peculiar size of basket which is used exclusively in England. The world is the market place of this concern. After the baskets are made, they are dried in high temperature kilns.

There is no factory in the world more modernly equipped in general facilities, and it is the only factory, which uses these remarkable machines.

When Leslie's Weekly staff correspondent and photographer were here securing data for an article about this company for that periodical, he freely predicted in the two-page article given the concern, that ultimately the basket making industry of the world would be centered in this company, and the most of it here in Paducah. As an evidence of the labor saving efficiency of these machines, 2,500 baskets can be made for exactly \$4.50—less than by hand—the method used in all the big eastern factories. Against such efficiency, he did not believe any opposition could survive.

In one immense room there are 115 of these machines. At present it is the dull season, but 240,000 are manufactured each day. The record day was 1,100,000 baskets, and last winter they were turning out regularly a million a day. They never have been ahead of their orders. Three hundred and seventy-five persons were the force last winter with a pay-roll of nearly \$8,000 a month. The engines running this plant have 400 horse power.

Recently a \$25,000 sprinkler system for fire protection was installed. One reservoir holds 300,000 gallons and the pump will pump 1,000 gallons of water a minute and is independent of the city water supply.

A ten-year lease on the property of the Geneva Tool company on the north side and of the McCarty property on the south side have been effected, part of which is in use and the plant now covers ten acres—more than two city blocks. Improvements are planned for next spring which largely will increase the capacity of the plant. Part of the plans for next spring is to manufacture peach crates.

John L. Meyers was the general manager of the company and saw it make its largest development. At present Mr. Walter S. Smith is the



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We court the most rigid examination of our beers and Malt-Nutrine by all Pure Food Commissions.

Anheuser-Busch Brewing Ass'n
St. Louis U.S.A.

J. H. STEFFEN, Manager
Anheuser-Busch Branch
Paducah



general manager.

In St. Louis the big mercantile houses carry their traveling men over the city in order that they may "boost" their city intelligently. Paducah has many enterprises, which are distinctive, and which it would help the city to have talked around. The Sun will "tour" these plants with its readers from time to time.

Remember the Graves County fair! October 3, 4, 5 and 6, 1906, Mayfield, Ky.
Reduced rates one and one-third fare, on railroads.

An attractive speed program for each day, with liberal purses offered, and with the best field of horses ever brought together in western Kentucky.

S. Alvarado, the high wire king, performs twice each day.

Balloon ascensions! Shot from a cannon, the most daring act in the world, being performed only by Prof. D. L. Dennis.

Tickets on sale at all drug stores in Mayfield. Four days, \$1.25, day tickets 75 cents and child's 25 cents. Graves County Fair Ass'n, Inc. WILLARD COLES, Sec'y.



Dorothea Sisters

—IN—

She Looks Good to Father

At The Kentucky tonight.

Prices.....25c, 35c, 50c and 75c.

S. E. Mitchell

326 S. Third Street

Carries the most complete line of

Bicycles and Supplies

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Morgan & Wright
Tires

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The Kentucky T-O-NIGHT

S. W. Pascoe
Presents the Funmakers

Mr. and Mrs.
John T. Powers

In the Rollicking Comedy

She Looks
Good to Father

5 BIG VAUDEVILLE ACTS 5

New songs, beautiful costumes, elaborate scenery, special electrical effects. A show that will look good to you.

Prices 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c.
Seats on sale Wednesday 9 a. m.

Friday Night, Sept. 28

THE FAVORITE'S RETURN
14th annual Tour of Jacob Litt's Incomparable Company in the Most Popular American Play Ever Written.

In Old Kentucky.

Written by C. T. Dazy

BIGGER, BRIGHTER, BETTER
THAN EVER

An Entirely New \$20,000 Production Built Especially for This Tour—The Countess Familiar Entertaining Features Presented Better Than Ever Before.

50 Rollicking, Frolicking Comical Pickaninnies.

6 Kentucky Thoroughbred Horses
The Greatest of All Horse Races
The Famous Pickaninny Brass Band
Madge's Thrilling Swing Across the Mighty Mountain Chasm.

Prices: 25c, 35c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00.
Seats on sale Thursday 9 a. m.

THE KENTUCKY Monday Night, Oct. 1

BOTH PHONES 548.

Golden Voice
Singer

AL. H.

WILSON

(Metz)

In a New Play Characteristic of Switzerland,
METZ IN THE ALPS

Management Sidney R. Ellis

A Welcome Ray of Alpine Sunshine.

Scenes of interest in Mr. Wilson new play: The Switzerland Valley, The Rugged Peaks of Alps, the Mountaineer's Home, The Icy Cravasse and the great Snow Storm. New songs and yodels: "My Heeyen is in Your Eyes," "Wilson's Lullaby," "Swiss Mountain Bird Yodel," "Songs of Old Fatherland," "Whispering Breezes," "Switzerlandbank."

PRICES: First 12 rows orchestra \$1.50, balance of orchestra \$1.00; first 3 rows of balcony \$1.00, next 2 rows of balcony 75c, balance of balcony 50c. Gallery 25c and 35c. Seats on sale Saturday.

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The great remedy for nervous prostration and all diseases of the generative organs of either sex, such as Nervous Prostration, Falling or Lost Manhood, Impotency, Nightly Emissions, Youthful Errors, Mental Worry, excessive use of Tobacco or Opium, which lead to Consumption and Insanity. With every \$5.00 order we guarantee to cure or refund the money. Sold at \$1.00 per box a box for \$2.50. DR. H. C. MCINTOSH & CO., CLEVELAND, OHIO.

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